

# ACCOUNT

## Great Distress brought by the Rebels

### Loyal Parishioners of St. NINIANS, near Stirling.

**O**N the first of February 1745-6, the Rebels, who had lodg'd a large magazine of gunpowder, &c. in the parish Church of St. NINIANS, finding themselves oblig'd to retreat, on the approach of his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND, blew up that intire spacious Fabrick, which was capable of containing 4000 persons for divine worship, whereby several of his Majesty's subjects were destroyed, and many more dangerously hurt.

A very large part of that church was an Isle fifty foot in length, and forty-six in breadth, built Anno 1722, at the expence of about 500*L.* sterling, intirely out of the parish stock for the Poor; for whose benefit, therefore, the rents of the pews in that isle, amounting annually to near 40*L.* sterling, were assigned by a decree of the Lords of the session.

The said parish being of a large extent, viz. ten miles in length, and five in breadth, and containing about 6000 catechisable persons, (i. e. of eight years of age and upwards) a part of the rents of those pews was allotted for the maintenance of an Assistant-minister, in preaching, catechising, &c. So that by the destruction of this fabrick, not only the fund for the support of the numerous poor of that parish is utterly funk, whilst by this very calamity their number is increased, and they reduced to very miserable and lamentable circumstances; but by the same disaster likewise, the maintenance of the aforesaid Assistant-minister is absolutely suspended; and thereby a burden, before too heavy for the minister and assistant jointly, is now devolved on Mr. MACKIE, the minister alone.

The parishioners of St. NINIANS were so remarkable for their zeal and loyalty to his Majesty, that on the breaking out of the late unnatural rebellion, they, of themselves, readily applied to Major General BLAKENY, his Majesty's Governor of Stirling-Castle, to have arms put into their hands, which that general accordingly intrusted them with; and, during those perilous times, they proved greatly serviceable, not only by keeping watch, but in gaining intelligence, and guarding the passes: And in this large and populous parish, where the Rebels remain'd a whole month, five persons only, and those of the lowest condition, could be prevail'd on to engage in the Rebellion.



His Majesty has been graciously pleas'd, out of his royal bounty, to bestow two hundred Pounds sterling towards the charitable purposes above-mentioned; but as there are near three hundred Pounds more wanting, to answer the charitable ends aforesaid, exclusive of the necessary charges attending this affair; it is therefore humbly hop'd, that persons of Rank and Fortune, who are cordially affected to his Majesty, and our happy Constitution, will charitably contribute towards the compleating of so good and laudable a purpose. For which end, Mr. MACKIE, the minister of the said parish, has taken a journey to this place: His ardent zeal for his Majesty, and our happy Constitution, and the eminent hazards he was expos'd to in doing his duty in his parish, and particularly in celebrating publick worship, and praying openly for our most gracious Sovereign King GEORGE, whilst the rebels were on the spot, are well known in NORTH BRITAIN.

All the fore-mentioned facts have been incontestably made appear by certificates from General BLAKENY, from the commission of the General Assembly of the church of SCOTLAND, from the Presbytery of STIRLING, and from sundry other vouchers, all ready to be shewn to such as desire to be satisfied herein. And for the further satisfaction of the pious and charitable contributors, such as desire it shall have receipts for their donations, under the hand of Mr. MACKIE, who will also keep an exact list of the contributors, for the perusal of all concerned; which list, with the several sums contributed, is intended to be published, that nothing may be wanting for the intire satisfaction of every contributor.

We the SUBSCRIBERS following, have given the several sums of money, written in words at length against our respective names, for the before-named pious and charitable purposes, viz.

A very large part of that church was an life fifty foot in length, and forty-six in breadth, built Anno 1722, at the expence of about 2000. sterling, intirely out of the parish stock for the Poor; for whole benefit, therefore, the rents of the pews in that life, amounting annually to near 400. sterling, were assigned by a decree of the Lords of the session.

The said parish being of a large extent, viz. ten miles in length, and five in breadth, and containing about 6000 catechizable persons, (i. e. of eight years of age and upwards) a part of the rents of those pews was allotted for the maintenance of an Assistant-minister, in preaching, catechising, &c. so that by the destruction of this fabric, not only the fund for the support of the numerous poor of that parish is utterly sunk, whilst by this very calamity their number is increased, and they reduced to very miserable and lamentable circumstances; but by the same disaster likewise, the maintenance of the aforesaid Assistant-minister is absolutely suspended; and thereby a burden, before too heavy for the minister and assistant jointly, is now devolved on Mr. MACKIE, the minister alone.

The parishioners of St. VINCENT were so remarkable for their zeal and loyalty to his Majesty, that on the breaking out of the late unnatural rebellion, they of themselves, readily applied to Major General BLAKENY, his Majesty's Governor of Stirling-Castle, to have arms put into their hands, which that general accordingly intrusted them with; and during those perilous times, they proved greatly serviceable, not only by keeping watch, but in gaining intelligence, and guarding the passes: And in this large and populous parish, where the Rebels remain'd a whole month, five persons only, and those of the lowest condition, could be prevail'd on to engage in the Rebellion.



WEST STIRLING.

ROYAL PARLIAMENTS OF ST. MARY'S.

ON THE

Great Difficulties brought by the Republics.

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Great Distress brought by the Rebels

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Loyal Parishioners of St. NINIAN'S,  
near STIRLING,

*Delivered in the Spring 1747-8  
by their Ministers the Rev. Mr. M<sup>r</sup>  
James Mackie, who got not  
£500 from the K. for him, the  
Minister of St. N. &c.*